

### **Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph **[0001]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

**[0001]** The present application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 10/303,994, filed November 21, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,662,496, which is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/772,712, filed January 30, 2001, now abandoned, and which is also a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 10/005,304, filed October 26, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,493,989, which is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/687,025, filed October 13, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,347,481, which is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/366,440, filed August 3, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,141,906, which is a continuation of 08/851,058, filed May 5, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,941,020, which is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 08/237,078, filed May 3, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5,625,979, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 08/220,852, filed March 31, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5,572,851. Each of the above applications is hereby expressly incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

Please insert the following paragraphs **[0020a]** - **[0020d]** after paragraph **[0020]** and before the title "Description of the Preferred Embodiments":

**[0020a]** Fig. 18 is a perspective view of a sleeve constructed in accordance with the present invention and containing a potted plant with the sleeve secured by a banding element disposed above the upper end of the pot.

**[0020b]** Fig. 19 is a perspective view of a sleeve constructed in accordance with the present invention and containing a potted plant with the sleeve secured by a banding element disposed below the upper end of the pot.

**[0020c]** Fig. 20 is a perspective view of a sleeve constructed in accordance with the present invention and containing a potted plant with the sleeve secured by a banding element disposed above the upper end of the pot.

**[0020d]** Fig. 21 is a perspective view of a sleeve constructed in accordance with the present invention and containing a potted plant with the sleeve secured by a banding element disposed below the upper end of the pot.

Please insert the following paragraphs **[0039a]** and **[0039b]** after paragraph **[0039]** and before paragraph **[0040]**:

**[0039a]** In an alternative embodiment, the sleeve 10a may be secured about the pot 40 using a securing element 74 to form a crimped portion 76, comprising overlapping folds 77, in a position above the upper end 42 of the pot 40 as shown in Fig. 18. Alternatively, as shown in Fig. 19, the sleeve 10a can be secured about the pot 40 using a securing element 78 to form overlapping folds 77 in a crimped portion 80 in the sleeve 10a in a position below the upper end 42 of the pot 40.

**[0039b]** In an alternative embodiment, the sleeve 10b may be secured about the pot 40 using a securing element 74 to form a crimped portion 76, comprising overlapping folds 77, in a position above the upper end 42 of the pot 40 as shown in Fig. 20. Alternatively, as shown in Fig. 21, the sleeve 10b can be secured about the pot 40 using a securing element 78 to form overlapping folds 77 in a crimped portion 80 in the sleeve 10b in a position below the upper end 42 of the pot 40.

Please replace the paragraph following the title "**Abstract**" with the following rewritten paragraph:

A method of covering a flower pot with an oversized sleeve. The sleeve has an inner diameter which is greater than the maximum diameter of a pot disposed therein. The sleeve may have a detachable upper portion, a skirt portion, with a linear or non-linear upper end, or with or without gussets in the lower end or sides. In the method the sleeve is secured about the pot by [a] crimping a portion of the sleeve having a bonding material thereon, or using a securing element.